

Message Text

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ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SAM-01 SP-02 INR-05 NSC-05 NSCE-00

SSO-00 INRE-00 /032 W

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FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3637

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LOURENCO MARQUES 700

LIMDIS

ADDIS ABABA FOR ASST SECY DAVIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, PDEV, PDIP, US, MZ

SUBJECT: SUGGESTION CONCERNING VISIT TO MOZAMBIQUE

REF: A) LOURENCO MARQUES 661; B) NAIROBI 5204

1. IN ABSENCE OF REPLY FROM DEPARTMENT TO REF W AND IN VIEW OF FACT THAT PRESIDENT MACHEL HAS NOT EVEN FORMED NEW GOVERNMENT YET, AS WELL AS FACT THAT THERE ARE A SCORE OF VISITING AMBASSADORS WAITING TO SEE HIM TO PRESENT THEIR CREDENTIALS, I NO LONGER THINK IT PRACTICABLE FOR ASST SECY DAVIS TO VISIT MOZAMBIQUE NEXT WEEK. AS HE SAYS IN HIS TELEGRAM (REF B) HE "WOULD NOT WANT TO GET THERE, HOWEVER, AND FIND EVERYTHING UP IN THE AIR".

2. WHEN UK MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS ENNALS AND BRITISH CONGEN DUNCAN SAW MARCELINO DOS SANTOS JUNE 26 IN ORDER TO PRESS FOR EARLY PRM AGREEMENT FOR NEW UK AMBASSADOR, DOS SANTOS MADE NO COMMITMENT RE TIMING. WHEN ENNALS SAID DUNCAN WOULD BE STAYING ON AS CHARGE D'AFFAIRES UNTIL THE NEW UK AMBASSADOR COULD ARRIVE, DOS SANTOS DID NOT REPLY DIRECTLY BUT SAID, "YOU HAVE CLOSED YOUR CONSULATE, HAVEN'T YOU?" (BRITISH, HOWEVER, DO INTEND KEEP HIM ON AS INTERIM CHARGE
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UNTIL AMBASSADOR ARRIVES IN SEPTEMBER AS THEY CONSIDER THIS

AN INTERNAL AFFAIR OF THEIR OWN.)

3. IN VIEW OF LACK OF GOVERNMENT AND PILE UP OF AMBASSADORS HERE, NOT TO SPEAK OF MY OWN "IDENTITY PROBLEM", DOUBT VERY MUCH I WILL BE ABLE TO NEGOTIATE WITH ANYONE OF SIGNIFICANCE ON QUESTION OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS UNTIL AND UNLESS SECRETARY KISSINGER'S LETTER OF JUNE 17 TO PRESIDENT MACHEL IS ANSWERED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE.

4. IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES, I BELIEVE WE SHOULD NOT WAIT FOR PROTRACTED PERIOD FOR REPLY TO THE SECRETARY'S MESSAGE. IN ABSENCE SUCH REPLY, WE SHOULD CONSIDER VARIOUS ALTERNATIVES, INCLUDING (A) SENDING A PERSONAL ENVOY TO DISCUSS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH MACHEL OR DOS SANTOS, (B) REQUESTING AGREEMENT FOR NEW AMBASSADOR OR (C) WITHDRAWAL OF THE CONSULAR STAFF. IN LATTER CASE, OUR BARGAINING POSITION WOULD BE BETTER AND OUR POSTURE MORE DIGNIFIED THAN IF WE SIMPLY TRIED TO REMAIN HERE IN LIMBO.

5. AS TO ENVOY, DEPARTMENT MIGHT WISH TO CONSIDER EITHER (A) NSC STAFF MEMBER DEALING WITH AFRICA (WHO COULD BE CALLED "WHITE HOUSE REPRESENTATIVE"), (B) SOMEONE OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY OR AMBASSADORIAL RANK FROM THE DEPARTMENT OR (C) AMBASSADOR FROM NEIGHBORING POST.
WALKER

NOTE BY OC/T: COORDINATED WITH S/SO, MR. MACK.

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